

REMARKS

These remarks are being filed in response to the Office Action mailed in this application on November 4, 2003. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

First, applicants thank the Examiner for verifying that the references cited in the ISR were considered in relation to this application by returning a copy of the initialed PTO 1449 form.

Next, with respect to the requirement for restriction, applicants elect, with traverse, the claims of Group I, claims 9-15.

It appears that there is a misunderstanding and it is given as the reason for requiring restriction in this application. Specifically, the restriction requirement appears to regard sepsis as systemic sepsis: "Sepsis occurs when toxins build up in the blood or tissues and can cause systemic infections and organ failures." (See the action, page 2, lines 16-17.) Claim 16, on the other hand, is directed to "[a] method of treating *sepsis in wounds...*" (emphasis added). Sepsis in wounds is local infection. Accordingly, applicants submit that the basis for requiring restriction is a misunderstanding, and they request that the requirement be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of all of the claims in this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
Patent Department
100 Headquarters Park Drive
Skillman, NJ 08558
(908) 904-2372

John M. Kilcoyne
John M. Kilcoyne
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 33,100

Date: December 4, 2003